MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD

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Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite! workers.org Vol. 67, No. 25 June 19, 2025 $1

Stop U.S. and Israel's war on Iran!

WW STATEMENT

Workers World Party affirms our full solidarity with the Iranian people, who are facing a targeted, unprovoked and unprecedented surprise attack. U.S. imperialism and its proxy in the region, the Israeli military, carried out this aggression.

Recent information confirms that the attacks had been planned for months. Immediately after the attacks, U.S. and Israeli government spokespeople boasted that the three waves of 300 bombings on June 13 were but the first round of days and possibly weeks of attacks on Iran. Israeli President Benyamin Netanyahu thanked President Donald Trump for his support and said the waves of bombing would continue "as long as it takes."

It was clear that the much-publicized U.S. negotiations with Iran regarding Iran's plans to enrich uranium were simply a cover for U.S.-Israeli war preparations. In the hours after the attack began, Israeli officials briefed reporters that the attack was coordinated with Washington. (tinyurl.com/3pwrmpej)

War provocation or miscalculation?

Is this an ominous attempt to incite a wider war? Or is this an arrogant miscalculation, a gamble that quick and massive air strikes could revive Israel's sinking ship politically?

Following Israel's strikes against Iran, Secretary of State Marco Rubio issued the traditional boiler plate denial of direct U.S. involvement. He stated that Israel had acted unilaterally.

Trump immediately jumped in to claim credit for the attack and stated that he had warned Iran. He posted on his personal Truth Social site: "I told them it would be much worse than anything they know, anticipated, or were told, that the United States makes the best and most lethal military equipment anywhere in the World, BY FAR, and that Israel has a lot of it, with much more to come — And they know how to use it," he added.

Future "already planned attacks will be even more brutal ... Iran must make a deal, before there is nothing left ... BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE," Trump wrote.

Israel targeted key nuclear facilities and essential infrastructure and killed top Iranian leaders — including military personnel and scientists.

Although the U.S. government said that the military would help intercept missiles from Iran, neither the U.S. military nor Israel's Iron Dome missile shield were able to stop Iran's response.

It is essential to understand the U.S. relationship to Israel. U.S. imperialism is the number one oppressor of the world. For over 75 years, U.S. rulers have subsidized, armed and diplomatically protected Israel. They do this, because Israel is a U.S. proxy for U.S. control and domination of West Asia, North Africa and the Gulf region that together provide cheap

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WW PHOTO: SARA FLOUNDERS

An emergency protest at New York City's Times Square military recruitment station demands NO war on Iran, abolish ICE, and break the siege of Gaza. June 16, 2025.

Fightback message well received at Cleveland Pride

This year's annual Pride parade in downtown Cleveland was one of the largest — possibly the largest ever — in the city's history, with tens of thousands participating. The parade had a wide range of contingents, from unions to churches to employers to socialist groups. The crowd responded positively to the latter, chanting "Free, free Palestine!" and "Ain't no power like the power of the people, 'cause the power of the people don't stop!" along with the marchers. With attacks on the trans community intensifying at the federal and state level, a popular theme was "Defend trans youth."

— Report and photo by Martha Grevatt

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WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

'No Kings Day' demonstrations in over 2,100 U.S. cities

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Newark, New Jersey

ICE detainees rebel against horrific conditions

By Monica Moorehead

Detention centers, just like jails and prisons, are concentration camps for the workers, the poor and oppressed peoples, on a global scale from occupied Palestine to El Salvador to the United States. Our incarcerated siblings face some of the most horrific, inhumane treatment imaginable — usually isolated and invisible from the rest of society.

But every once in a while these detainees rise up to say "enough is enough" to remind the world that they are human beings and want to be treated as such despite their extremely oppressive conditions under Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), whatever charges they face.

Such was the case that happened at the ICE Delaney Hall Detention Center in Newark, New Jersey, when four migrant inmates escaped during an uprising on June 12. Those inmates are Joel Enrique Sandoval-Lopez and Franklin Norberto Bautista-Reyes from Honduras and Joan Sebastian Castaneda-Lozada and Andres Pineda-Mogollon from Colombia. As of June 16, both Lopez and Lozada were recaptured.

The detention center, like many others, is notorious for being so overcrowded that people have to sleep on a cold floor, are served bread as a meal, forced to drink contaminated water and face constant guard brutality. These kinds of conditions and more led to the uprising when inmates covered security cameras in order to hide their identities to smash windows and walls, according to immigration lawyers who interviewed the detainees.

This detention center, like many others inside the U.S., is financed and managed by the GEO Group, a Wall Street firm that makes profits from this repression. This private firm won a 15-year, $1 billion contract from the Trump administration to transform an old building into a detention center especially for undocumented migrants. This contract is part of Trump's overall plan to detain without due process and deport as many migrants as possible as quickly as possible. There are an estimated 51,000 migrant detainees throughout the U.S.

These detainees deserve our solidarity. □

Protest outside Delaney Hall, Newark, New Jersey, June 13, 2025.

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQ2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, class solidarity, and joining us in the fight for a socialist future, please sign up at *www.workers.org/join-form* and an organizer will get back to you. Or contact a WWP branch near you. □

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Job losses, layoffs on the rise in the U.S.

By Otis Grotewohl

Workers in the United States are suffering an accelerated uptick in layoffs, with job losses carried out in both the private and public sectors. Cuts in federal agencies are responsible for over half the employment reductions this year, with over 150,000 job cuts reported in February and March. (intellizence.com, June 11)

A recent report released by the executive outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas concluded that the number of job cuts announced in the first five months of 2025 increased 80% over the same period in the previous year. (New York Post, June 10)

The report also shows that "store closures in the U.S. have led to a huge 274% spike in retail layoffs" this year. In the last five months, retailers have announced 75,082 job cuts compared to the 20,276 job losses during this same period last year. (The Independent, June 10)

According to Andrew Challenger, senior vice president of Challenger, Gray & Christmas: "Tariffs, funding cuts, consumer spending and overall economic pessimism are putting intense pressure on companies' workforces. Companies are spending less, slowing hiring and sending layoff notices." (finance.yahoo.com, June 11) Such right-wing political policy is one of the driving forces behind massive job losses.

Oppressed workers suffer the most

Regardless of job or profession, Black, Brown, Indigenous, women, gender-oppressed and LGBTQIA2S+ workers suffer the most due to mass layoffs. Young people, seniors and workers with disabilities also endure extreme hardship from inflated job losses.

Next to the federal sector, retail, entertainment and tech workers are the second hardest hit sections of the workforce. Since January, many retail chains and department stores have either closed several stores nationwide or they have ceased operations completely.

Among the stores that have and are continuing to close locations are Macy's, Kohl's and JCPenney, as well as Walgreens, CVS and Rite Aid. Walmart — which is the largest employer in many rural communities — has also announced nationwide downsizing, especially in their tech department. Several other department store chains, including Party City, Joann Fabrics and Forever 21, have closed all their shops.

Other companies that have unleashed mass terminations this year are UScellular, Morgan Stanley, Amazon, John Deere and United Parcel Services. Just this month, Procter & Gamble announced plans to eliminate approximately 7,000 non-manufacturing positions. This decision is expected to impact 15% of its office-based workforce over the next two fiscal years. Meanwhile, Procter & Gamble remains one of the world's largest consumer goods companies.

Workers in the entertainment industry are also experiencing a higher than usual number of job losses. Like the tech employers, entertainment industry bosses are finding ways to replace workers with Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other forms of automation. Disney, Discovery, Warner Brothers and Paramount are among the companies that are gutting their workforces.

President Donald Trump and his fascistic regime are the main culprits behind the economic homicide aimed at hurting federal employees. The Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), set up by billionaire Elon Musk in January, was largely responsible. According to a tally conducted by Reuters in May, over 260,000 federal workers have been fired, taken buyouts or have been forced to retire early since Trump has taken office a second time. (Reuters, May 2)

Even with Musk gone from the White House, working-class and oppressed people are now concerned that if Trump's "big, beautiful bill" passes the U.S. Senate, there will inevitably be an economic massacre that will destroy thousands more jobs. Unless Trump's proposed Medicaid and Medicare cuts are eliminated, hundreds of rural hospitals, including unionized facilities that this author serves as a union staff representative, are projected to close permanently. Hospital closures in rural areas will devastate whole communities.

Marxist-Leninist response

The capitalist ruling class constantly seeks ways to expand and maximize profits. Capitalist bosses often have administrative and mid-level managers tell workers they are simply "cutting costs" to justify mass terminations.

Marxist-Leninists recognize that unemployment is a key feature of capitalism, because "anarchy of production" is an inherent characteristic of the profit driven system. Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx used the term "reserve army of labor" in describing the pool of unemployed workers that exists as a result of technological advancements and economic crises.

United for Respect organized retail workers at Toys-R-Us in 2019 to protest layoffs.

In contrast to the capitalist U.S., socialist China has undergone a drop in unemployment rates over the last few months. Various studies reveal that unemployment in the People's Republic of China decreased each month since February. (tradingeconomics.com, April 16) Under the disciplined leadership of the Communist Party, China embraces central economic planning, as opposed to the "anarchy of production" rooted in capitalist economies.

Marxist Leninists see jobs and secure employment as personal property rights to which every worker is entitled. The best way for working people to successfully defeat the ongoing economic slaughter is for workers and oppressed people to collectively fight the fascist far right and the billionaires' class through a militant, united front. ☐

Southern workers strategize for future struggles

By Dianne Mathiowetz
Spartanburg, South Carolina

From June 13-15 more than 400 workers answered the call by the Southern Workers Assembly (SWA) to affirm an action plan to challenge the systemic racism, poverty and anti-unionism of the South.

The dynamic agenda of the summit was held in Spartanburg, South Carolina, with workers mostly from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, West Virginia, Kentucky, Arkansas, Tennessee, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. All the main sessions were able to be heard in English and Spanish. Workers of all ages participated in very interactive breakout sessions that combined proven tactics for organizing with new ideas and technology.

The appreciation and excitement to hear first hand from the victorious members of the Charleston 5 longshore workers to the potent solidarity of the National Domestic Workers Alliance/We Dream in Black members to the brave actions of Amazon, immigrant farm and poultry-processing workers was inspiring.

The core of the plan for workers power advanced by the SWA is the formation of local assemblies which join together workers from various job sites, both unionized and non-unionized, to develop a self-directed center that can both challenge anti-worker bosses, politicians and institutions and provide active solidarity to struggles in their communities.

A key element of the activities of the SWA movement is the necessity of political education and local research to ground the development and actions of SWA chapters.

The Fruit of Labor singing ensemble with members from Black Workers for Justice brought their spirited and powerful original songs to every full session. A special performance of a Mexican folk dance delighted the crowd with its energetic footwork.

Currently there are 17 local assemblies in various cities. Given the enthusiasm of those attending the Spartanburg Summit, that number can be expected to increase rapidly over the coming months.

Additional information can be found at southernworker.org and @swa_solidarity, or by emailing info@southernworker.org. ☐

On the picket line

when we fight we win!

By Marie Kelly

Striking Keurig-Dr. Pepper workers in Victorville, California.

University workers

University of Oregon student workers won a victory in May after the university finally agreed to a contract that aligned with workers' demands. After 11 months of failed negotiations, the students, members of United Auto Workers Local 8121, hit the picket line. The strike lasted 10 days.

The new contract was ratified with 95% of members voting in favor. Some of the gains won were a wage increase that lifts salaries above Oregon's minimum wage, paid sick leave and the ability to have a neutral third party review any workplace harassment complaints.

On May 1 the University of California's Union of Professional and Technical Employees (UPTE-CWA 9119) held the latest of four strikes since their contract expired in September 2024. They were joined on the picket line by members of California Nurses Association, Service Employees Union (SEIU) Local 1000 and the California Federation of Teachers. The union is still fighting for a decent contract.

Factory workers

The 250 members of Teamsters Local 896 at the Keurig-Doctor Pepper plant in Victorville, California, were supported by over 700 Teamsters at other KDP plants across the state during their strike. "The support we received across Southern California was incredible," said Phil Cooper, secretary-treasurer of Local 896. "Our Teamster brothers and sisters at all six facilities stood up without hesitation and honored our picket line." (teamsterssjc42.com, May 27)

Striking workers won significant wage increases and access to the Western Conference of Teamsters Pension Trust.

In Hartford, Connecticut, a strong majority of members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Locals 1746 and 700 authorized a strike at a Pratt & Whitney plant that began May 5. The strike lasted three weeks, delaying production of F135 plane engines and F-35 military jets. Under the new contract, machinists will receive increases in wages and retirement benefits.

UAW members at two Lockheed Martin plants ratified a new contract on June 2, ending their month-long strike that began deliberately on May 1, International Workers Day. The contract stipulates significant wage increases. Locals 788 in Orlando and 766 in Denver accused the corporation of multiple unfair labor practices and having "refused to present a fair economic proposal that meets the membership's needs." The defense giant has secured $1.7 billion in profits in the first quarter of 2025. (commondreams.org, May 1). ☐

Life sentences = elder abuse

By Betsey Piette
Philadelphia

In the U.S., over 17% of the population — nearly 59 million people — were age 65 or older as of 2022. A significant number rely on Social Security as their sole income — on average below $25,000 annually. Around 10% have incomes under $10,000.

With the Trump administration's threatened cuts to Medicaid, Medicare and other support programs impacting seniors, conditions for the majority of this group will only worsen.

The 1,893,200 people incarcerated in the U.S. in county, state and federal prisons at the end of 2022 are already suffering from extreme neglect and dangerous "living" conditions. The number of incarcerated people was an increase of 25,100 from 2021. (statista.com)

In an article published in September 2023, political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal, currently incarcerated at Pennsylvania SCI Mahanoy, described prisons as "No Place for Old Men." He wrote: "One of the vagaries of mass incarceration is the explosion of the elderly as part of the prison population. Today, men in their seventies and eighties roll around here in wheelchairs or hobble on walkers or even stroll with the help of canes. They have a host of health problems from diabetes, which is quite prevalent, [Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease] COPD, from heart attacks and ailments to cancer.

"The American Public Health Association has advanced the novel idea that the elderly in prisons have been subjected to 'elder abuse' by the state in all the ways they have been mistreated and maltreated, for they are subjected to solitary confinement, to aching joints, to the natural frailties of old age. APHA has urged that elderly prisoners be made free of 'elder abuse' by release from confinement. They have urged this upon state, county, federal and territorial prisons, jails and institutions of detention."

Inside a state prison in California. PHOTO: ANDREW BURTON

With extremely few exceptions, this is not happening. While elder abuse is a crime, prisons across the U.S. do it all the time.

Many incarcerees are sent to prison as juveniles on sentences that include "life without the chance of parole." NPR's Morning Edition notes: "People behind bars tend to age faster than people on the outside. For that reason, 'geriatric' in prison can mean someone as young as 50, though it varies by state." (March 11, 2024)

The number of state and federal incarcerated persons aged 50 or older has also increased five-fold from what it was thirty years ago. In 2022, this included over 286,900 people. (PubMed Central, April 17)

While the U.S. Constitution does not guarantee the right to health care, in 1976 the Supreme Court in Estelle v. Gamble found that deliberate indifference to the serious medical needs of incarcerated people violates the Eighth Amendment's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment.

This ruling had an impact on another landmark case involving Abu-Jamal when a federal district court judge, on Jan. 3, 2017, granted his request that the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections provide him with direct-acting antiviral drugs to cure his chronic hepatitis C infection, contracted while he was imprisoned. This ruling opened the way for all other prisoners suffering from Hep C to be granted the same treatment.

June 8 support meeting

Around 40 people active in support work for Abu-Jamal participated in a hybrid meeting on June 8. They discussed the issue of institutional elder abuse as it has pertained to Mumia, who turned 71 on April 24, and other political prisoners, including Leonard Peltier whose federal prison sentence was commuted by former President Joe Biden in February based on Peltier's poor health.

Due to multiple court rulings involving Abu-Jamal that have gone counter to established legal precedent, he has exhausted his legal appeals at this time. But rather than throwing in the towel, his supporters want to fight harder to get out information on Mumia and the legal frame-up.

Towards this end, a demonstration will be held in Philadelphia on July 5, marking the 43rd year of his unjust sentence, to broaden awareness over the state's police, judicial and prosecutorial misconduct in the case, as well as elder abuse in Pennsylvania's prisons.

More information can be found at **mobilization4mumia.com**. □

Migrants with disabilities experience ICE's ableist, racist terror

By Edward Yudelovich

The 22-year-old U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency is now perceived as international public enemy number one. Many thousands have protested the kidnapping, torture, abuse and murder of migrants in the U.S. Yet, the U.S. ableist establishment media has largely under-reported or ignored these crimes against humanity when ICE's targets happen to be people with disabilities.

A June 8 exposé in "The Disabled Ginger" entitled "Disabled People are Being Mistreated in ICE Detention Facilities" unmasked this media negligence and pointed out how detention by ICE can be a petri dish that causes new disabilities and aggravates existing ones.

The report condemns ICE: "Disabled individuals have been tossed to the wayside for far too long. We are treated as 'acceptable losses' when it comes to COVID-19 and public health policies. Targeted by fascists who want to remove social supports like Medicaid and food assistance programs ... It's created a world where instead of showing compassion when someone dies of an infectious disease, the first question folks ask is: 'How much comorbidity [i.e. the simultaneous presence of two or more diseases or medical conditions] did they have?' As though a certain number of pre-existing conditions make their death acceptable.

"This shift, this narrative that insists over and over that disabled people are expendable, has given permission to treat us as 'useless eaters,' a term originally used by the Nazis when they targeted disabled people during WWII." (disabledginger.com, June 8)

On June 24, 2024, Physicians for Human Rights released a report stating ICE admitted to 68 deaths of people in its custody since 2017.

Alma Bowman is a 58-year-old disabled Filipina mother from Macon, Georgia. During the first Trump regime, Bowman was detained for 30 months in ICE custody. Her permanent residency was revoked for writing $1,200 in bad checks 20 years prior, even though she had since paid the debt. Bowman endured separation from her two children and experienced medical negligence for her chronic health conditions and inhumane living conditions.

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Bowman was released from ICE custody due to overcrowding and then proudly became a whistleblower and advocate to expose atrocities committed against people within the detention facilities.

Bowman was a survivor of and key witness to non-consensual procedures being committed by a doctor, including non-consensual gynecological procedures against women in the Irwin County Detention Center in Georgia, which was investigated and condemned by the U.S. Senate and which has since closed. After Trump was reelected, when Bowman showed up at the ICE Atlanta Field Office for her regular check-in, she was separated from her family and thrown back into custody. Since then she's been held at the Stewart Detention Center in Lumpkin, Georgia.

ICE denies accessibility needs

Rodney Taylor is a Black double amputee at an ICE detention facility in Georgia. Taylor's mother brought him to the U.S. from Liberia on a medical visa as a small child. Now 46, he has lived in the U.S. nearly his entire life, works as a barber, is active in promoting cancer awareness in his community and recently became engaged.

Nonetheless, Taylor's immigration status is unresolved. Despite having an application for a residency permit — a "green card" — he is being detained by ICE because of a burglary conviction he received as a teen and for which he was pardoned in 2010. When he was detained, he was only two days away from receiving new prosthetic legs. His old ones require eight hours of charging, which the detention facility almost never provides.

Rodney Taylor, disabled immigrant from Liberia now in ICE custody, in his barbershop.

Taylor was given shoes that don't fit his feet. The facility offered him a non-motarized wheelchair which he can't push, because he has only two fingers on his right hand. Taylor has experienced pain and swelling in his thumb since being detained; as a result he has gone without food. He has increasingly severe hip issues and his request for a medical leave to be assessed for new prosthetics was denied.

Ableist abuse in ICE concentration camps is cut from the same cloth as the blatant violation of the rights of disabled people behind the walls of U.S. concentration camps also known as prisons, as reported in Workers World in January 2024. (workers.org/2024/01/76247)

The article opens with a quote from Disability Rights California: "The disproportionate incarceration of people with disabilities in the United States is a serious and growing problem. As the prison population ages, more inmates are reporting physical disabilities. The U.S. has also seen a rise in the number of people with mental illness and developmental and cognitive disabilities in prison. National surveys now indicate that as many as 31% of inmates in state prisons report having at least one disability."

This interview with a disabled activist incarcerated in Pennsylvania was banned from the Pennsylvania prison system.

Long, ugly history

The U.S. Immigration Act of 1882 prohibited people from entering the U.S. if they were "unable to take care of himself or herself without becoming a public charge." These regulations were made even more restrictive in 1891, 1903, 1907 and 1924. (Draconian immigration laws were also racist, excluding Asian Americans, especially Chinese people.)

At Ellis Island in New York Harbor during peak years of immigration from 1870 to 1924, when potential immigrants were screened, interviewed and examined, U.S. officials marked those with any form of disability with a chalked letter on their backs containing a different code for each disability, so it would be easier to exclude them. "X" was the mark given to people with "possible mental illness" and "X" with a circle for "definite mental illness." (Ancestry.com, March 2006)

The Disability Ginger exposé offers a fight-back prescription: "We can bring about change. We can choose to be inspired by people like Alma and Rodney. People who spoke up at great personal risk and cost. ... We too can refuse to be silent. We can raise our voices in whatever way we can."

Edward Yudelovich is an organizer with neurodivergent and auditory disabilities for the Disability Justice and Rights Caucus of Workers World Party.

Stop the government witch hunts

Protesters rally against immigration raids on June 11, 2025, in Los Angeles.

Workers World Party condemns — in the strongest possible terms — the so-called "investigations" of organizations whose supporters have been in the streets demanding an end to the racist Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids and arrests of immigrants.

On June 11, the Senate Committee on Homeland Security notified at least three organizations that have opposed these brutal attacks on the migrant communities, threatening criminal charges for "providing logistical support and financial resources to individuals engaged in this disruptive conduct."

The same day, the House Committee on Homeland Security sent letters to more than 200 Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that offer services to migrants, threatening them with criminal charges for providing assistance — including transportation, food, translation and shelter — to undocumented workers.

These so-called "investigations" are nothing but a cover for the government's attempts to silence those who are rising up to defend migrant workers, who are now being viciously attacked by ICE and Homeland Security agents, so that their brutality can continue without opposition.

No groups should be forced to comply with these illegal, witch-hunting demands from House and Senate committees which have no authority to intervene in nor disrupt completely legal advocacy work.

The broadest support and unity from all political organizations, community groups, unions and religious groups, stepping forward in solidarity in every way possible, is critically needed at this time to defend against these fascist tactics. ❐

Boston: No Pride in Genocide!

By Will Hodgkinson
Boston

Tens of thousands of people crowded Copley Square for Boston's LGBTQIA2S+ Pride parade on June 14, with a reported one million watching along the route. Prominent and popular among the groups participating was a militant "No Pride in Genocide" bloc that included the Boston Coalition for Palestine, Democratic Socialists of America, Mass Peace Action, Jewish Voice for Peace, Party for Socialism and Liberation, ACT UP and Workers World Party activists.

WW PHOTO: MAUREEN SKEHAN
Spectators react to "No Pride in Genocide" bloc at Boston Pride, June 14, 2025.

The massive turnout despite rain comes as the fascist Trump administration intensifies police state terror campaigns targeting immigrant and LGBTQIA2S+ communities and as U.S. imperialism's proxy Israel continues to escalate their genocidal wars, which — as the Israel Occupation Forces' terror-bombing of Iran shows — threaten all of West Asia.

The "No Pride in Genocide" contingent made explicit the need for global solidarity between LGBTQIA2S+ and colonized peoples who share a common enemy: the system of capitalist patriarchy and imperialism that continues to intensify its repression globally. As one slogan chanted by demonstrators stressed: "From Stonewall to Palestine, occupation is a crime!"

The "No Kings" countrywide demonstrations on June 14 multiplied turnout at this year's Boston Pride. Although organized by the Democratic Party-aligned "50501 movement" — which promotes U.S. flag-waving, "patriotic resistance" to Trump — their call nevertheless attracted many anti-fascists, young and elder, who cheered the pro-Palestine marchers.

The multitudes who lined the streets of Boston's Back Bay had brought thousands of handmade signs condemning war, ICE and the fascist administration's racism and bigotry. They were electrified by the "No Pride in Genocide" bloc, enthusiastically joining in chants of "Free, Free Palestine!" and "When trans rights are under attack, what do we do? Act up, fight back!" The crowd roared "F-ck ICE!" during the entire two mile route.

WW PHOTO: MAUREEN SKEHAN
"From Stonewall to Palestine, Pride Means Fight Back!" banner at Boston Dyke March, June 13, 2025.

The parade ended at Boston Common where chants of "Free Palestine!" continued to draw cheers. A contingent of pro-Palestine activists gained rousing support from the crowd and local media attention by heckling Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey, an ardent Zionist, off the stage when she attempted to speak. ❐

Workers World celebrates LGBTQIA2S+ Pride: 'We won't go back!'

For over half a century, Workers World newspaper has covered the global struggle to end all forms of discrimination, persecution and violence against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersexual, Asexual and Two-Spirit communities.

WW has consistently backed up our activist coverage with analysis. In the early 1970s, WW ran a series of articles that led to publication of "The Gay Question: A Marxist Appraisal" in 1976. Then in 1993, WW republished it as "The Roots of Lesbian and Gay Oppression: A Marxist View," with a new preface and afterword. (These and works below are available to download at workers.org/books.)

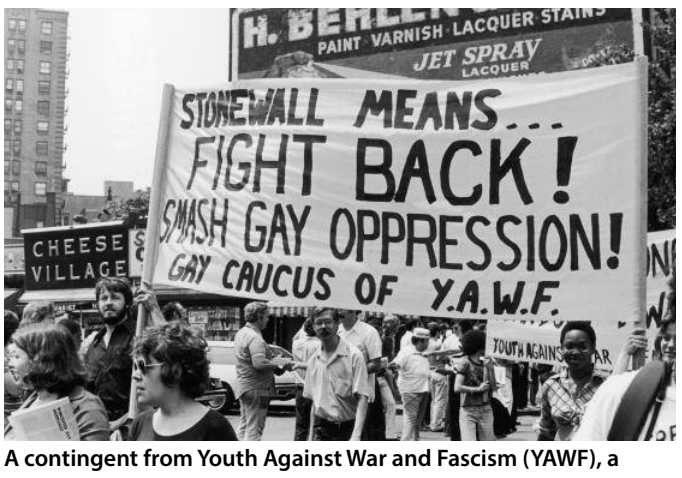
In 2004, WW managing editor and globally recognized transgender leader Leslie Feinberg began the "Lavender & Red" series, which ran until 2008 in WW. A group of 25 articles from that series was later published as the book, "Rainbow Solidarity in Defense of Cuba."

Feinberg was an ardent supporter of the Palestinian resistance to U.S.-backed Zionism. In a 2007 speech given at an ASWAT – Palestinian Gay Women – conference in Haifa, Feinberg stated: "Today we see how the imperialists — the U.S. to Israelis — use the experiences of women, of gays, of transgenders as pretexts for imperialist war. The white supremacist ideology replaces the colonial claim of 'bringing civilization' into imperialist claims that they are 'bringing democracy.'"

In 2012, Feinberg engaged in civil disobedience and wrote articles defending Black trans woman CeCe McDonald, who was charged with manslaughter after defending herself from a violent, racist, bigoted attack.

WW has consistently covered important events such as Trans Day of Remembrance in honor of those who have lost their lives to bigotry, as well as annual Pride Day events around the country.

Our newspaper will continue to voice solidarity with the LGBTQIA2S+ community, and in particular the trans community, now under vicious attack by the Trump administration. Stonewall means fight back!



A contingent from Youth Against War and Fascism (YAWF), a youth affiliate of Workers World Party, at the 1974 New York City Pride march.

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Workers.org contains news and analyses of global and U.S. struggles, bulletins from Palestinian and other national liberation movements and articles translated by our staff. Mundo Obrero publishes articles in Spanish. Our writer-organizers report on anti-capitalist struggles and people's movements against racism and war and for the rights of women, workers, migrants, prisoners, other oppressed people and jobless, LGTBQIA2S+, young, older and disabled individuals. Prisoners receive all issues for free. **The website is a resource for political activists.**

While WW's staff is voluntary, the 12 annually printed issues and workers.org incur expenses. Many online publications require payments to read their articles; WW does not. **Our articles are free to all readers.**

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Your donations help get class truth to more readers — and are appreciated. Write monthly or annual checks to Workers World. Mail them with your name, address and email to Workers World, 121 West 27th St., Rm. 404, New York, NY 10001. ❐

‘No Kings Day’

Millions across the U.S. protest Trump’s a

By Martha Grevatt

Philadelphia WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Democratic Party-affiliated groups, including Indivisible and 50501, have been organizing huge protests against the program of President Donald Trump with themes such as “Hands off” and the latest “No Kings Day.” Their goal is to contain the mass anger at Trump’s fascist attacks and channel it into the electoral arena. The politics of these protests are limited and in some ways even reactionary when slogans include such demands as “Hands off NATO” and participants were handed U.S. flags to carry.

Nevertheless, these actions — most recently the over 2,100 separate actions in all 50 states in which an estimated 5 to 8 million people participated — represent a mass movement against Trump’s draconian cutbacks to needed social programs. People want to protect the hundreds of thousands of federal workers whose jobs are on the chopping block.

What’s more, many among the millions out in the streets against Trump are expressing a will to go beyond the official program of the protest organizers. They are carrying signs saying “F-ck ICE” and “No one is illegal on stolen land.” Many are demonstrating visible support for a free Palestine — of which the publicity promoting No Kings Day made zero mention.

Trump’s parade fizzles

While millions were marching and rallying against Trump’s program, the much-ballyhooed parade for the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Army, which coincided with Trump’s birthday on June 14, drew a mere 9,000 reported spectators. The White House had predicted 200,000. That’s quite a contrast!

As these eyewitness reports will show, the masses of working-class and oppressed people were in the streets protesting, not celebrating with Trump. These reports offer some examples of protests in differing geographical areas, but are not a comprehensive assessment of all the actions that took place on June 14.

No Kings Day in **Philadelphia** may have been among the larger actions in the country, as protesters, estimated to be around 80,000 by NBC News, gathered near City Hall and marched up the Benjamin Franklin Parkway for a rally on the steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. National organizers considered Philadelphia to be their “flagship” event, with Trump intent on throwing out the Constitution, originally drafted in this city almost 250 years ago.

Protesters, some coming from as far away as Maryland, carried signs addressing Trump’s attacks on immigrants and free speech, efforts to privatize the U.S. Postal Service, the growing police state, the attacks on women and trans people and more. Contingents ranged from a small grouping from the American Postal Workers Union to several hundred activists raising demands to end the genocide in Palestine. When one speaker said that voting for Democrats was the solution, participants in the Palestine contingent loudly chanted “No votes for genocide.”

Rhinebeck, New York WW PHOTO: JOHN CATALINOTTO

Throughout the march and rally, people chanted “No ICE, no KKK, no fascist USA!” and “Stop starving Gaza!” and raised demands that speakers address the U.S./Israel wars in West Asia. The second to last official speaker, Georgia State Representative Ruwa Romman, did talk about Palestine, but this was the exception.

The march took place just days after over a dozen demonstrators were arrested in Center City while protesting the increasing number of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) raids in the area, including the kidnapping of over 20 people in nearby Norristown, Pennsylvania. After the No Kings rally ended, a group of people marched to the Federal Detention Center being used by ICE.

Not only in big cities but also in small towns like **Rhinebeck, New York**, population less than 8,000, people mobilized in unprecedented numbers against the threatened Trump dictatorship. More than 500 people gathered at a playground near the public school to join together against the president’s latest actions. There was strong solidarity with migrants and opposing the use of National Guard troops and Marines against demonstrators.

Like Rhinebeck’s population, the demonstrators were 90% white. Many speakers were people of color, representing the left wing of the organized Democratic Party leaders, especially its more activist sector. The organizers distributed U.S. flags to the participants, but they also provided cardboard and markers for people to make their own signs. One that read “No deportations, No genocide, No war on Iran” got thumbs up even though it could apply equally to Republican and Democratic administrations.

According to the **Atlanta** news stations and the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, there were 16 No Kings demonstrations across Georgia, with several taking place in metro Atlanta. There were thousands of people at many of them and hundreds in some of the many suburbs and smaller towns. There were many signs mocking Trump, U.S. flags and signs on health care and other social service cuts.

Most of the participants were white except for those at the protest on Buford Highway, which is in the largely Latine neighborhood that has been the site of a number of actions in support of immigrants. Some Palestine flags could be seen in the news coverage.

Big numbers in Ohio, West Virginia, Denver

At least 10,000 people joined the largest, but not the only, rally and march held in **Cleveland** on June 14. The demonstration was larger than the LGBTQIA2S+ Pride parade held a week earlier, which was itself one of the most well-attended in the city’s history.

Along with the dominant Democratic Party-promoted themes — patriotism, “No Kings,” saving democracy, etc. — there were many signs attacking ICE and defending migrants and more than a sprinkling of signs, flags and keffiyehs showing solidarity with Palestine. A few “No war on Iran” placards were spotted. Homemade signs addressed a range of issues, condemning the cuts in Medicare, Medicaid, education, food assistance and other programs targeted in Trump’s “big beautiful bill” and rejecting fascism.

The action was one of a number of anti-Trump protests held around Northeast Ohio. Dozens of No Kings actions took place statewide.

Rallies were held in at least 15 small cities and towns throughout **West Virginia** on June 14. Among the towns where people demonstrated were Huntington, Charleston, Morgantown, Wheeling and Shepherdstown.

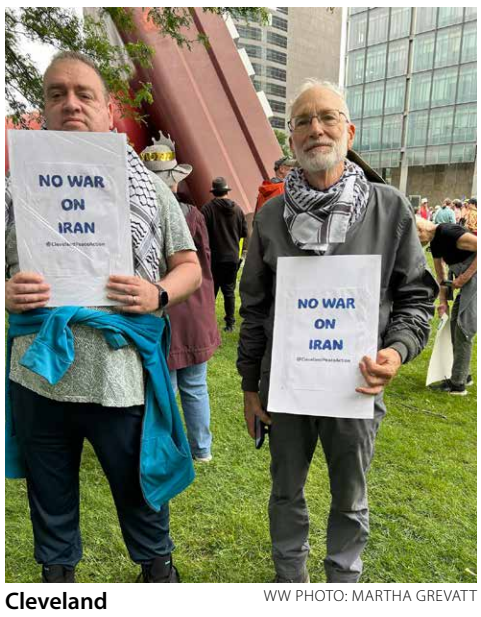
Members of Workers World Party distributed Workers World newspapers at the Charleston and Huntington events. There were over 1,000 people at the Charleston rally, which was held on the steps of the state Capitol building. Roughly 200 people demonstrated in downtown Huntington. Many demonstrators carried Palestinian, Mexican and Intersex-Inclusive Progress Pride flags. A few people had signs against the recent attacks on Iran.

Many of the signs focused on migrant rights and called for the abolition of ICE. ICE raided a popular restaurant in Huntington just a few days earlier and arrested several of the workers. A lot of the attendees are also concerned about how Medicaid and Medicare cuts could tragically impact rural communities.

Denver PHOTO: VIVIANA WEINSTEIN

A huge crowd exceeding 10,000 people, young and old, braved 90 degree heat in **Denver** to loudly express their anger at Trump and the policies that are threatening their lives. They marched through downtown and around the state capitol building. Threats to social services such as Medicaid, Social Security, education and jobs programs have angered Coloradans.

Charleston, West Virginia WW PHOTO: WEST VIRGINIA BUREAU



Cleveland WW PHOTO: MARTHA GREVATT

ttacks on workers and oppressed people

Many signs supported immigrants and opposed the Trump administration's attacks on immigrant families and the lawlessness of how ICE, police, the National Guard and the military are being used. The disappearances and deportations of workers and students without due process is illegal and is terrorizing college campuses and peaceful working-class neighborhoods in Los Angeles, Chicago, Denver and other cities. A sign reading "Stop the deportations — Close down the detention centers!" received strong approval.

A very loud contingent was the anti-genocide, pro-Palestinian protesters with sign slogans reading "Stop The Starvation — FEED Gaza!" "Free Palestine!" they shouted. The young people said they were happy to see so many older folks, and the seniors got inspiration from the energy of the youth.

After the No Kings action, anti-ICE protesters attempted to go onto State Highway I25 to block traffic. Police fired projectiles and other "non lethal" weapons and arrested 36 people.

Protests showcase anti-Trump mobilizations in Texas

Hundreds of people gathered in the historic downtown area of **Denton, Texas**, to declare their opposition to the Trump regime, carrying signs such as "Billionaires are the only minority ruining our country" and chanting slogans like "No fascist USA!" Denton is in the Dallas-Fort Worth metropolitan area.

Houston WW PHOTO: GLORIA RUBAC

Speakers at the event, which lasted two hours, included Alfredo Muñoz, chairperson of the Caldwell County Democratic Party, who paid lip service to the class war going on in this country despite his political affiliation. He spoke of how the U.S. had been taken over by the oligarchs, how this was not a matter of "left and right, but top and bottom," and said the working class needed to "demand their seat at the table."

This sort of rhetoric is common among more "populist" members of the Democratic Party and more often than not carries little actual meaning. However, its distinct appeal to workers was notable in that the Democratic Party, even in its mission to co-opt and neutralize the struggle, realizes that this is a workers' struggle, and thus that is who they must appeal to in these times.

Overall, the event was a significant demonstration of the workers' opposition to Trump's fascist policies, both in the case of his military parade in Washington and the ongoing ICE raids across the country. If the ruling class was convinced that Texans would be with them in their war on anyone who opposes fascism, they have been proven dead wrong.

Over 20,000 people gathered at **Houston** City Hall. Some were enjoying the huge crowd, some had very creative signs, and some were totally angry, just furious! Almost 2.5 million people live in Houston, and over 45% are Latine. So the issue of immigration and the recent ICE kidnappings are an urgent issue, and the majority of the signs reflected this.

Hundreds gathered in the Kingwood neighborhood in Houston, which is representative of exurban sprawl, in the first protest launched by the Kingwood chapter of Indivisible. Kingwood is a heavily Republican area, so demonstrations of this kind are unusual here. The protest was dominated by patriotic liberals who want to return the U.S. to the time before Trump first took office. Almost every attendee had a U.S. flag. Many people wore Democratic Party related merchandise and referenced the U.S. War of Independence and such on their signs.

That said, plenty of people carrying U.S. flags also had signs that referenced important issues, including trans rights, attacks on immigrants and seemingly everything except Palestine. There were a few younger marchers without flags, some of whose signs had more radical slogans such as "No one is illegal on stolen land."

Protesters did not march, but stood on the sidewalk in full view of oncoming traffic.

Many people were clearly very surprised that individuals were rallying against Donald Trump in Kingwood at all. A young Black adult passing by said that they were proud of everyone there and that it made them feel less alone. Another passerby, an elderly white person, said that they had thought they were the only Democrat in Kingwood.

About halfway into the rally, protesters were informed that a white supremacist group had shown up to counter-protest. However, they did not directly confront anyone and stayed in one specific area, so the protest continued as if they weren't there.

Overall, this protest was unimpressive in terms of content, but it is noteworthy in terms of context. This is a heavily conservative, suburban area, and for hundreds of people to gather here against Donald Trump at all is unprecedented. It shows that even in areas that have long been bastions of reaction, opposition to Trump's policies is growing, which can only be a good sign.

Portland, Oregon WW PHOTO: LYN NEELEY

Huge actions in Pacific Northwest

Condemning the terror of ICE raids, as well as anti-worker cutbacks, layoffs and destruction of social welfare institutions, masses of people participated in **Seattle**'s No Kings march and rally. The Seattle Emergency Operations Center said the march was "in excess of 70,000." (Seattle Times, June 14)

In the week leading up to the march there were protests against the ICE courts at the federal building downtown where migrants are terrorized, deported and experience family separation. A number of people were arrested after successfully blocking the ICE vehicle exits from the federal building.

The march travelled from Capitol Hill to the Seattle Center. Mass anger against the Trump regime was very clear in all the protest signs. In addition to "No Kings," people also chanted "Free Palestine!" and several migrant rights chants.

Demonstrations were held all over the state of Washington — in working-class Seattle suburbs, at the University of Washington commencement and on a state ferry. In Tukwila, just outside Seattle, ICE and Tukwila cops attacked people at an ICE check-in site at the Department of Homeland Security. Police fired pepper balls and tear gas at the crowd of 150 people, which included activists and attorneys, and at least two people were detained.

The Seattle demonstration was mobilized by Indivisible, but the involvement of many layers of the working class showed the possibility of taking the struggle to a higher level.

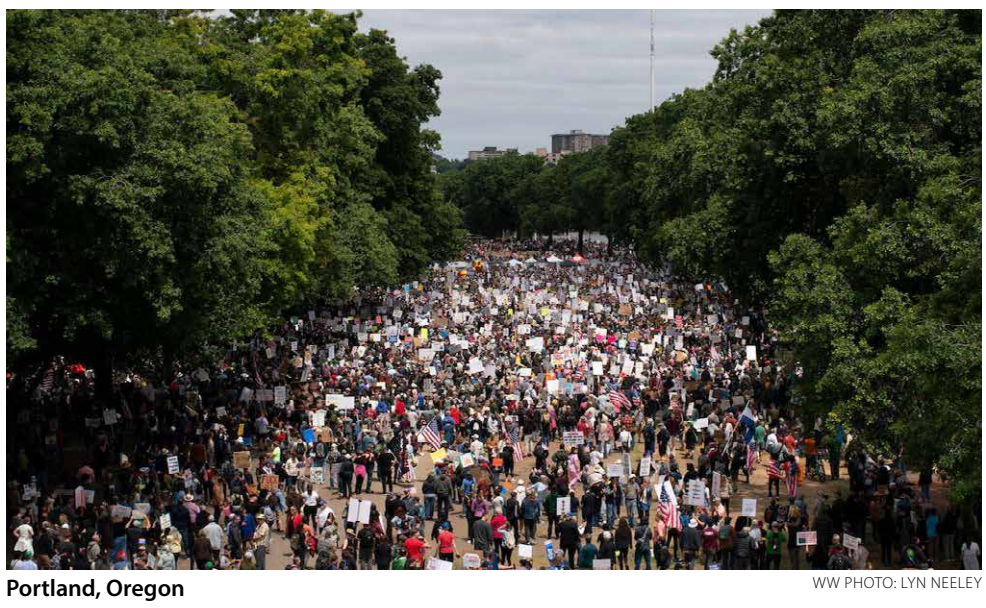
Tens of thousands protested in **Portland, Oregon**, and in dozens of cities across the state. An anti-imperialist contingent grew throughout the downtown Portland rally, opposing U.S. support for Israel and its wars on Palestine and Iran and protesting the militarized assault on migrants in Los Angeles and cities throughout the country.

People at the rally were struck by the immensity of the crowd and the constant stream of thumbs up and honks by passing cars.

Alison G. marched with a crowd of thousands on the east side that took over the Hawthorne Bridge to join tens of thousands of protestors downtown. She said: "With all the harrowing events of the last few weeks, it was uplifting how many people came out to express their deep concerns about the chaotic and rash actions by this administration. Not once has my life nor anybody I know been adversely affected by an immigrant or trans person. What does affect our lives is affordable housing, the opioid epidemic, job security and tariffs. Maybe try solving our real problems and stop terrifying harmless communities."

Revolutionaries will need to win the best elements of this new mass movement to an anti-capitalist perspective of breaking with both the Democrats and Republicans and building a united front against fascism and imperialism.

John Catalinotto, Alex Colwell, Dianne Mathiowetz, Jim McMahan, Lyn Neeley, Betsey Piette, Viviana Weinstein and the Workers World Houston and West Virginia bureaus contributed to this article.



Portland, Oregon WW PHOTO: LYN NEELEY

Witnessing China's socialist transformation

A firsthand account of development and global solidarity

By Ché Marino

In May 2025, I had the privilege of joining a delegation organized by Friends of Socialist China, a collective dedicated to fostering international solidarity and understanding of China's socialist model. Our journey, hosted by the China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), took us across several regions, including Shaanxi, Gansu and Shanghai.

The purpose of our trip was to engage in dialogues on civilizational exchange, witness China's remarkable socio-economic transformations and deepen our understanding of the principles underpinning its development. Through visits to historic revolutionary sites, discussions with local leaders and participation in cultural events, we aimed to explore the realities of Chinese socialism and its implications for global solidarity.

As I stepped off the plane in Shanghai in 2025, memories of my first visit in 2009 came flooding back. Sixteen years ago, I arrived as a college student seeking the cheapest study abroad option available. What I found then was unmistakably a developing nation: streets that flooded when it rained, large swaths of underdeveloped public infrastructure and transportation that consisted of hitching rides on motorcycles to reach the nearest train station.

The transformation I witnessed upon my return is nothing short of remarkable. Where once stood only the Oriental Pearl Tower on the Bund now rises a skyline of architectural marvels. The face-scanning technology that allows commuters to enter subway stations with just a glance would have seemed like science fiction during my first visit, when my university ID was merely a laminated photo.

This dramatic metamorphosis represents more than just economic growth; it embodies the success of China's socialist project with Chinese characteristics. As I traveled through residential areas of Shanghai, I was struck by the quality of life afforded to ordinary citizens: beautiful parks, running tracks with specialized materials that protect joints and extensive bicycle paths. "We don't have this in New York City," I found myself repeatedly saying.

The socialist foundation of China's success

China's achievements cannot be separated from its socialist system. During our delegation's discussions, Professor Zhang Weiwei, an expert in International Relations and Director of the China Institute at Fudan University, explained that Chinese socialism has evolved beyond a merely domestic concept to one with universal dimensions and global relevance. This isn't state capitalism, as Western critics often claim. The fundamental economic policies are made by the Communist Party rather than by capitalists or special interest groups, ensuring that development serves the people rather than profit.

PHOTO: FRIENDS OF SOCIALIST CHINA

Display at Yan'an Revolutionary Memorial Hall.

The results speak for themselves. China has lifted 800 million people out of poverty in just four decades — the largest poverty reduction program in human history. It has become the world's largest producer of renewable energy, leading in both wind and solar power production, all while maintaining a peaceful foreign policy that stands in stark contrast to the constant military interventions of the imperialist United States.

Beyond infrastructure: A holistic approach to development

China's development model extends beyond physical infrastructure. In the city of Dunhuang, our delegation witnessed how China preserves its cultural heritage while embracing modernization. The ancient Silk Road spirit of peace, cooperation, openness and inclusiveness now finds expression in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

PHOTO: FRIENDS OF SOCIALIST CHINA

Exploring the wonders of Dunhuang, known for its rich history along the ancient Silk Road, and the stunning Mogao Caves, this vibrant city beautifully blends culture with natural sand dunes.

China's Vice President Han Zheng articulated this vision during our visit, emphasizing that the BRI is underpinned by "extensive consultation, joint efforts and shared benefits" in advancing infrastructure connectivity, cultural exchanges and people-to-people bonds. It has become "a belt for development and a road to happiness, benefiting the whole world."

Global Civilization Initiative: A new framework for international relations

During our delegation's visit to Gansu Province, we participated in dialogues centered on the Global Civilization Initiative proposed by China's President Xi Jinping. This initiative promotes exchanges, mutual understanding, mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and cooperation among different civilizations.

As conflicts and the crises of poverty intensify globally, China offers an alternative vision based on respect and understanding of diverse cultures. The initiative encourages an open and win-win approach to international relations, providing a framework for addressing common challenges.

China-Africa relations: A model of South-South cooperation

Our discussions highlighted China's approach to Africa as fundamentally different from that of Western neocolonialism. China's engagement with Africa is characterized by respect, equality and mutual benefit. Unlike Western powers, China consistently sends high-level delegations to African countries, demonstrating genuine respect and commitment.

African delegates at our meetings emphasized how China's infrastructure investments are helping their countries break free from imperialist control. The Belt and Road Initiative offers an alternative to the exploitative policies of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Western financial institutions.

PHOTO: FRIENDS OF SOCIALIST CHINA

Delegation outside Emperor Qinshihuang's Mausoleum Site Museum in Xi'an.

Personal observations: Socialism in practice

Walking through Shanghai's residential neighborhoods revealed the human-centered nature of China's development model. Unlike the profit-driven urban planning of Western cities, Chinese cities are designed for collective well-being. The streets are clean, green spaces abundant and public transportation efficient and affordable.

This stands in stark contrast to the crumbling infrastructure and growing inequality I see in New York City. As one delegate noted, China's development makes "the United States look like an empire in decline."

Challenges and misconceptions

Western media perpetuates numerous falsehoods about China, from allegations of genocide in Xinjiang to claims of debt-trap diplomacy in Africa. These narratives serve to demonize China and justify aggressive policies aimed at containing its rise.

Our delegation's experiences directly contradicted these portrayals. We witnessed a society focused on improving people's lives, promoting ecological civilization and fostering international cooperation. The Chinese people we met were proud of their country's achievements and optimistic about its future.

Lessons for the global left

For those of us engaged in progressive politics in the West, China's socialist path offers valuable lessons. As Carlos Martinez, with Friends of Socialist China, noted during our discussions, China demonstrates that another world is possible — one based on cooperation rather than competition, peace rather than war and development that benefits the many rather than the few.

PHOTO: FRIENDS OF SOCIALIST CHINA

Delegation in front of a painting at the Site of the First National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party, a museum in Shanghai.

The Chinese experience shows that mass communist politics are the only force capable of responding to the contradictions of our time. China's anti-poverty measures, commitment to building ecological civilization, and autonomous development provide a powerful counter-example to the moral rot and immiseration of capitalist imperialism.

Conclusion: A vision for the future

My journey through China in 2025 ignited a profound hope for the future — a vision where development is rooted in socialist principles that prioritize collective well-being over individual profit. From the bustling streets of Shanghai to the historic sites of Dunhuang, I witnessed a society confidently charting its own path to modernization while extending a hand of friendship to the world.

As the global balance of power shifts away from U.S. hegemony, China's socialist society offers an alternative vision for human development — one based on peace, cooperation and mutual benefit. For young people facing climate cynicism and social disorganization in the West, China provides a model of sustainable development and innovation.

The transformation I witnessed between my first visit in 2009 and my return in 2025 stands as a testament to what socialist planning can achieve. As I told the other delegates, "It just really goes to show you how socialist central planning is the only way to develop your society and economy."

In a world facing multiple crises, from climate change to growing inequality, China's socialist path illuminates a way forward — not as a template to be mechanically copied but as a source of inspiration for all who seek a more just, peaceful and sustainable world. ☐

Gaza Solidarity: moving from speech to action

By G. Dunkel

Al-Soumoud Convoy bound for Gaza reaches Libya, June 10, 2025.

An international coalition called the Global March to Gaza composed of labor unions, solidarity and human rights organizations — nearly 200 groups from over 50 countries — set June 15 as the day volunteers would set up an encampment at the Rafah crossing into the Gaza Strip.

They intend to disrupt Israel's ongoing genocide in Gaza and to put pressure on world leaders to stop talking and start acting. They are also bringing some practical aid.

The 4,000 volunteers from the Global March, paying their own expenses, flew into Cairo on June 12. They then took buses to Arish, a small Egyptian city on the Sinai coast. In Arish, they were to meet the overland contingent, the Maghreb Resilience Convoy called Al-Soumoud (The Steadfast) and march by foot to Rafah together.

The Al-Soumoud Convoy consisted of 13 buses and 300 vehicles carrying nearly 1,000 militants from Tunis through Libya and Egypt. Al-Soumoud is supported by the Tunisian General Labor Union, some progressive lawyers, human rights associations and the Tunisian Forum for Economic and Social Rights. Some prominent Algerian parliamentarians have joined Al-Soumoud as individuals. The Coalition of Joint Action for Palestine in Tunisia began organizing to physically express its solidarity with Gaza in early May. Al-Soumoud left Tunis June 12.

The volunteers of the Steadfast Convoy were warmly greeted as they passed through North African towns on the way to Gaza. When it stopped in Libyan coastal towns, they were given food, water and fuel and much support.

The Egyptian government said it would not permit the convoy to go to Rafah and has deported some volunteers. On June 15, AlJazeera News reported that the thousands of international pro-Palestine activists were blocked from reaching Egypt's Rafah border crossing and forcefully dispersed, with some detained.

There was close coordination between the Tunisian movement and the Global March in the planning and logistics of such a complicated action. The Freedom Flotilla Coalition, which sponsored the Madleen — the ship trying to break Israel's blockade, which was seized by the Israeli Navy in international waters June 9 — was not part of the Global March to Gaza, but it did tell Global March when it was planning to act.

Both the Freedom Flotilla Coalition and the Global March feel that the time for verbal condemnations of Israel's genocidal policies in Gaza has ended. Actions are what is required. ❐

Freedom Flotilla to Gaza exposes EU complicity with genocide

By Sara Flounders

Crew and passengers of the Freedom Flotilla boat, the Madleen, prepare to set sail for Gaza. June 1, 2025, Catania, Italy.

The small Madleen boat, with a crew and passengers of 12 international humanitarian activists launched by the Freedom Flotilla Coalition, was boarded and seized by Israeli forces in international waters on June 9. This illegal act occurred at 3:00 a.m. local time, about 100 nautical miles from Gaza. Madleen's crew, which included Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg and Rima Hassan, a member of the European Parliament from France, was taken to Israel.

Also among the passengers and crew were activists, a journalist, an attorney, a doctor and human rights defenders representing global civil society.

Israeli media reported that the Madleen and its crew members were taken to the port city of Ashdod. There they were put in solitary units and forced to screen an Israeli propaganda film purportedly made up of footage from the Hamas-led October 7 Al-Aqsa Flood. A number of those aboard the Madleen reportedly have been deported back to their home countries.

The ship was publicly carrying humanitarian aid to Palestinians in Gaza, who are starving because of the strict Zionist siege enacted on March 2. A very limited amount of food has been distributed in Gaza, involving private U.S. military contractors and with Israeli forces bypassing traditional United Nations agencies, creating chaotic situations.

Israeli soldiers and U.S. military contractors shot defenseless Palestinians waiting in lines — many in the head — killing hundreds. This "media distribution" has been labeled a "humanitarian camouflage." No aid has reached the overwhelming majority of people in Gaza in over three months.

The imperialist governments of the European Union, such as Germany, France, Spain, Italy and the Scandinavian countries, have made bland statements of concern regarding the horrific starvation measures imposed by the state of Israel on the Palestinian population of Gaza.

The total support of U.S. imperialism for this forced starvation is confirmed, and not only by the military equipment and funding the U.S. has provided for over 75 years. It was reinforced in the June 4 U.S. veto of a U.N. Security Council resolution denouncing the blockade of food, water and medicine to Gaza.

Workers' power blocks shipments to Israel

Can the other imperialist powers really do nothing else except vote for a resolution? They have been forced to make statements at the United Nations and wring their hands in the media, but only by extreme mass pressure and solidarity with the Palestinian resistance — including strikes, work stoppages, refusals to load shipments and massive marches.

Increasingly, organized workers' movements are taking bold action. Unions of truckers and dock workers throughout Europe have acted to block military shipments, stating they will not allow their ports and transport networks to be used to aid genocide.

According to France's General Confederation of Labor (CGT), French dock workers in the port of Fos-sur-Mer, outside Marseille, on June 5 refused to load crates of links from the French company Eurolinks used to assist the rapid fire of bullets.

On May 14 port workers in Genoa, Italy, refused to handle a ship filled with weapons and explosives bound for the Israeli port of Ashdod.

On Nov. 9 Spain denied entry to a Maersk container ship arriving at the Port of Algeciras, carrying arms to Israel. Other arms shipments have also been blocked. The U.S. opened an investigation into this "infringement of trade."

A month earlier the Greek dock workers' union at the Piraeus Port blocked the loading of a container of 21 tons of ammunition destined for Israel.

Members of the Swedish Dockworkers Union voted to block shipments to Israel, with 68% in favor, while German workers and lawyers filed suits to do the same.

Beyond Europe, Moroccan workers blocked shipments on April 17, 2025. Unions called on port workers at the Casablanca port to boycott the Maersk cargo ship reportedly transporting F-35 fighter jet components.

These blockades at ports on the Mediterranean are especially effective because of arms shipments to Israel being routed around Africa and into the Mediterranean Sea. The re-routing has been due to the effective military blockade of shipments to Israel through the Red Sea and Suez Canal by Ansarallah of Yemen, begun after the October 7, 2023, Al-Aqsa Flood opened this round of resistance to Zionist occupation.

The mass demand: 'Stop the complicity'

On June 8 more than 300,000 flooded the streets of Rome in a demonstration demanding the government "Stop the massacre, stop complicity!"

The failure of the governments of a whole number of powerful imperialist countries in Europe to use any of their vast military resources to deliver aid or to halt arms shipments confirms their active and hostile complicity. Big corporations are profiting from this well-known and public crime of genocide against the entire population of Gaza.

A people's effort called the Freedom Flotilla was determined to publicly force the issue and provide some modest supplies. Would any country send a fleet of ships to protect them? Would any planes or drones provide air cover? Would any country send desperately needed supplies using its navy or air force?

To pose the question is to answer it.

The Zionist state has violently shut down past Freedom Flotillas. This people-to-people aid to Gaza is confronting not only the Zionist/U.S. war crimes but challenging the European complicity in the genocide.

According to documents filed by the Palestinian Assembly for Liberation (PAL) Law Commission on War Crimes, Justice, Reparations and Return, "The EU has a legal obligation to take urgent steps to ensure safe passage of the Flotilla, including deploying EU naval escorts or observers."

As the Commission further states: "Despite universal recognition of the unfolding atrocity, states have failed to uphold their legal duties. Public condemnations of Israel's conduct have not been matched with protective or preventive action. On the contrary, inaction — and in many cases material, political and diplomatic support — has served to enable these atrocities.

"The EU and its member states remain bound by their legal duties — not merely to refrain from complicity but to prevent genocide and protect unarmed humanitarian missions from unlawful obstruction.

"This mission (of the Freedom Flotilla) is not voluntary — it is compelled by state failure to act, as required by law. Accordingly, if EU member states fail to act to protect this humanitarian convoy and its passengers, they risk being complicit — legally and morally — in the continued starvation and extermination of the Palestinian population — and in any harm that comes to Flotilla passengers.

"Member states have a legal obligation and a moral imperative to stop starvation and genocide in Gaza." (palwarcrimes.org)

The Freedom Flotilla statement declared: "Any interception, attack, sabotage or interference with the Madleen or its civilian passengers and crew will constitute a deliberate, knowing and unlawful attack on civilians and a violation of international law. Such actions would amount to grave breaches of the Fourth Geneva Convention and potentially constitute war crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court."

Solidarity with the Freedom Flotilla! Release the crew and passengers!

End U.S./EU complicity in genocide! Free Palestine! ❐

WORKERS WORLD editorial

Black and migrant lives matter!

During the summer of 2020, the U.S. was engulfed in widespread protests that brought out hundreds of thousands of people in the streets in the aftermath of the racist public lynching of 46-year-old George Floyd. The Minneapolis police murdered Floyd on May 25 of that year. Those protests, which spread to other countries, not only called for justice for George Floyd and denounced police brutality but demanded local governments "defund the police" and even "abolish the police."

One year later on June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed into law the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, creating a federal holiday to be commemorated annually on June 19. Juneteenth became a paid day off for public sector workers. Some unionized private sector workers, notably United Auto Workers members at the Big Three, also won Juneteenth as a paid holiday. This was an important symbolic concession won by the protests the year before.

This year will mark the 160th anniversary of Juneteenth, when on June 19, 1865, enslaved Black people were liberated in Galveston, Texas — two and a half years following the 1863 enactment of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln and two months after the Confederacy surrendered.

Even before Juneteenth — also known as "Freedom Day" — was made a legal holiday, Black people celebrated this anniversary all over the U.S. with marches, rallies and an array of social and cultural events. But up until the 2021 bill was passed, the bourgeois media paid little to no attention to these celebrations.

But since Donald Trump took office for the second time, Juneteenth and other significant commemorations for oppressed people have come under attack as they had been put in place under the umbrella of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) programs. A federal law signed by Biden on Feb. 22, 2023, requires certain federal agencies such as the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services and Education to set up "equity teams" and "DEI steering committees."

These groupings were assigned tasks by law to promote "the consistent and systematic treatment of all individuals in a fair, just and impartial manner," especially those who had "been denied such treatment," most notably people of color due to systematic racism.

Ever since Donald Trump issued an executive order to overturn DEI directives for governmental agencies, there is major concern that Trump's order will eventually block programs recognizing the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, Black History Month and Juneteenth for federal workers, many of them African Americans.

Trump wants to turn back the clock

Today, Trump's racist attack on migrants, especially those with origins in Central and South America and the Caribbean, have taken center stage on an international scale. Similar to what was done during the Floyd protests, the National Guard has been deployed in Los Angeles to join the local police in using brute force, including tear gas, batons, and flash-bang grenades against migrants and their supporters. Trump has ordered hundreds of Marines from a nearby base to be unleashed on the protesters, moving a few steps closer to martial law.

Trump illegally evoked the Insurrection Act of 1807, a federal law that empowers the president to deploy the U.S. military and to federalize National Guard units in specific circumstances, such as the suppression of civil disorder, insurrection and armed rebellion. As of this writing, the Los Angeles protests do not fall under any of those categories.

The attacks on Black people and migrants are part of the same class struggle. It is incumbent on the entire multinational, multigendered and multigenerational working class to unite to come to the defense of the most oppressed, most vulnerable sectors of our class. They have fought long and hard — no matter who has occupied the White House — for basic democratic rights through decades of mass struggle and movements against a predatory, profit-driven capitalist system. ☐

Migrants are justified to resist state repression

WW COMMENTARY

By Monica Moorehead

June 15 — Workers World Party expresses its ongoing, unequivocal solidarity with the migrant community in Los Angeles and their supporters who have been resisting in the streets since June 6 against brutal attacks by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) federal agency, Department of Homeland Security, LA police and other armed repressive forces.

Illegal raids had been conducted in workplaces like Home Depot, resulting in the arrests of over 120 migrant workers, documented and undocumented. Los Angeles is the U.S.'s second most populated city and home to more migrants than any other city. It is part of the land stolen by war from Mexico in 1848.

These random arrests remind one of the days of U.S. enslavement when Black people, whether they were already free or attempting to win freedom, were kidnapped and brought back to their enslavers in chains.

Donald Trump, who has declared a racist and xenophobic war on migrants since day one of his second term, ordered 4,000 soldiers of California's National Guard to Los Angeles without the approval of its governor, Gavin Newsom. The National Guard is the only branch of the U.S. military that can be deployed at a moment's notice by both state governors and the president.

The Pentagon sent 700 marines to Los Angeles to back up the National Guard.

The Guard is composed of young volunteers who have other jobs, unlike the army or police. Activists should be urging Guard members to refuse these illegal orders to repress other workers.

The uprising broke out in the city of Paramount, California, south of Los Angeles, where migrants and their supporters, a number of whom were visibly carrying the Palestinian flag and wearing keffiyehs, battled the police and ICE agents. Many other protesters carried their flags of origin, especially those from Mexico and other Central and South American countries.

Los Angeles protest, June 8, 2025.

Union president and senator – both Mexican – assaulted

During these arrests, David Huerta, president of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) California and SEIU-United Service Workers West, was assaulted and detained for observing the protest. Huerta, whose grandparents migrated from Mexico, is a U.S. citizen.

Tia Orr, executive director of SEIU California, stated: "We are proud of President Huerta's righteous participation as a community observer, in keeping with his long history of advocating for immigrant workers and with the highest values of our movement: standing up to injustice, regardless of personal risk or the power of those perpetrating it.

"We call for an end to the cruel, destructive and indiscriminate ICE raids that are tearing apart our communities, disrupting our economy and hurting all working people. Immigrant workers are essential to our society: feeding our nation, caring for our elders, cleaning our workplaces and building our homes." (seiu-usww.org, June 6)

Huerta was released from the hospital due to the emergency solidarity protests called on his behalf in over 30 U.S. cities on June 9. He was released later on the same day on a $50,000 bond and still facing bogus federal charges of "conspiring to impede an officer," which could result in a six-year prison sentence if convicted.

Thousands of migrants in large and small cities have been detained and sent to prison inside and outside the U.S., including in Guantanamo and the notorious Terrorism Confinement Center in El Salvador. They are denied the right to a trial, a hearing of charges and any other legal due process supposedly guaranteed under the Constitution. Trump is attempting to carry out his own version of ethnic cleansing of migrants out of the U.S. — similar to the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from Gaza.

On June 12, during a press conference in Los Angeles conducted by Kristi Noem, the head of the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, a Democrat representing the state of California, was assaulted, thrown to the floor, handcuffed by federal agents and then escorted out of the hearing for just attempting to raise a question about the June 6 LA raids. Padilla, who is a U.S.-born citizen of Mexican descent, stated after the incident, "If this is how the Department of Homeland Security responds to a senator with a question, you can only imagine what they're doing to farmers, to cooks, to day laborers throughout the Los Angeles community and throughout California and throughout the country." (Reuters, June 12)

Homeland Security accused Padillo of "disrespectful political theater."

A rich history of fight-back

Los Angeles has a rich history of heroic uprisings against racist police brutality in the 20th century. Most notably were the 1965 Watts rebellion, which will commemorate its 60th anniversary this coming Aug. 11, provoked when the LA police attacked a barbeque party in the predominantly African American South Central community of the city. That rebellion lasted five days.

And 27 years later there was the rebellion in 1992 that again was ignited in South Central Los Angeles following the heinous acquittal of white, racist police officers for the savage beating of Black motorist Rodney King that was caught on videotape. The 1992 rebellion lasted for a week and was even more widespread than the one in Watts.

Protests were held countrywide in solidarity with the 1992 LA rebellion, which was not only against racist police terror but also to demand quality housing, education and health care for the underserved Black and Latine communities. There was a mass campaign to demand full amnesty for an estimated 12,000 people arrested during the rebellion.

What's behind this war on migrants?

What is happening in Los Angeles reflects a much deeper crisis within the capitalist system as it faces its permanent end, predicted in the Communist Manifesto over 175 years ago: The working class will inevitably become capitalism's gravedigger. Therefore, the billionaire ruling class has no other option but to depend on a violent, repressive apparatus to keep the billions of workers worldwide under its oppressive rule.

State repression is not a show of strength but a show of fear and weakness by the owners of capital and their unstable system. This repression is a constant reminder that antagonistic differences cannot be resolved peacefully when one class oppresses another. There is no equal sign when it comes to the armed police and military as the real perpetrators of violence and the unarmed resistance of the masses to this state repression.

For example, very reminiscent of the historic Palestinian struggle against the U.S.-backed Israeli occupation, young people have the right to self-defense by throwing rocks and bottles against armed ICE agents and police who use tear gas, pepper spray, flash-bang concussion rounds and smoke canisters against them.

Political solidarity with migrants is an important step forward in forging broader working-class unity to ultimately defeat the dying system of capitalism that relies on all forms of violence — imperialist war, occupation, racism and cutbacks under the guise of white supremacy — to keep its head afloat in an ocean of social revolution that will inevitably drown it. ☐

Palestinian resistance factions condemn attacks on Iran

The following solidarity message from Palestinian resistance factions appeared in Resistance News Network on June 15.

We strongly condemn the heinous zionist aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran. This attack reflects the criminal nature of this entity. We affirm that Iran is paying the price for its steadfast and principled stance alongside our people, our resistance and our Palestinian cause.

The Palestinian resistance factions mourn the martyrdom of a group of leaders of the Islamic Republic, foremost among them the two fighting commanders Hossein Salami and Mohammad Bagheri, along with military leaders, scientists and civilians who were martyred in the zionist aggression against Iran. We confirm that their pure blood will remain a curse on the foreheads of the zionists and Americans and a lasting disgrace to all traitors and cowards.

The overwhelming Iranian response to the zionist aggression proves that brave, strong Iran and its sincere leadership possess the strength and ability to make the zionist entity scream and regret its crimes.

The scenes of Iranian missiles striking zionist strongholds and hideouts fill us with pride, dignity and honor and shatter zionist arrogance and dominance. It sends a message to the zionist entity that its delusions of superiority and dominance are gone forever.

The continued, precise Iranian missile responses and the resilience of Iran's home front confirm that if the Ummah [whole community of Muslims] wills it, it can act — and that force and resistance are capable of restraining the criminal Netanyahu and his rogue gang. Their continued aggression will lead them to the abyss faster than they imagine.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, through its leadership and fighting armed forces, is avenging every drop of blood spilled since October 7 [2023] in Gaza, Lebanon, Yemen and Iran. It sends a message to all who bet on the zionist entity: blood is not forgotten, and accountability is coming no matter how long it takes. The era of the zionists' illusion of superiority and that of their criminal allies is over.

The missile strikes and overwhelming counterattacks have brought joy and delight to Gaza, its people and its children. They are vengeance and revenge for the zionist criminals who kill babies, women and the elderly, starve our people and destroy all aspects of life in Gaza for the past 20 months. Iran's missiles came to strike the killers' heads and their vulnerable underbelly, bringing down all illusions of zionist arrogance and tyranny.

We call upon all the peoples of the Ummah and all free people of the world to unite, set aside their differences and rally behind the Iranian armed forces, who are fighting this battle on behalf of the entire Ummah.

Greetings to the brotherly Muslim Iranian people, its wise leadership and the brave Iranian armed forces. From Palestine, we say: Peace be upon you, your martyrs, your wounded. Peace upon your missiles, your tireless arms, your unyielding resolve and your resistance as it writes new chapters of the Ummah's glory.

Hamas politburo member Izzat al-Rishq (The Cradle) added: "Iran demonstrated a remarkable ability to absorb the first blow and regain the initiative in Operation True Promise 3, through a series of painful responses that confused the enemy and shattered the initial euphoria that came with the assassination of leaders and scholars.

"We are facing a battle of wills, not just calculations, and Iran is demonstrating a high degree of will and readiness. The zionist enemy may ignite the war, but it does not have the keys to ending it.

"The equations are changing, and whoever thinks that the fire will burn only one side has not read history well." ☐

U.S. and Israel commit aggression against Iran

Continued from page 1

and abundant petroleum and natural gas.

Israel is the only country in the West Asia-North Africa region with nuclear weapons. The Israeli regime, a U.S. proxy, has done everything it could to maintain its monopoly of nuclear weapons in the region and to keep the other states disarmed and defenseless against a nuclear threat.

Iran has been developing nuclear energy capabilities for electricity generation, medical isotopes and research. Nuclear energy will help to boost its economic development. The United Nations recognizes the inalienable right of all nations to develop and use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Thirty-one countries have nuclear energy.

Trump, who had broken an earlier treaty involving Iran's development of nuclear energy, reopened negotiations with Iran. But most recently, U.S. negotiators suddenly demanded that Iran accept zero nuclear enrichment. Iran rejected this arbitrary U.S. demand.

U.S. positioning for attack

Two months ago, on April 16, the New York Times provided detailed coverage of Israel's close collaboration with the U.S. military in developing elaborate plans and scenarios to attack Iran. The plans required U.S. help "not just to defend Israel from Iranian retaliation but also to ensure that an Israeli attack was successful. The United States was a central part of the attack itself." (tinyurl.com/47p3jyn3)

The Times reported that Gen. Michael E. Kurilla, with the blessing of the White House, began moving military equipment to West Asia. A second aircraft carrier, Carl Vinson, was moved to the Arabian Sea, joining the carrier Harry S. Truman in the Red Sea. Two Patriot missile batteries and a Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system (THAAD) were repositioned to West Asia. B-2 bombers, capable of carrying 30,000-pound bombs, essential to destroying Iran's underground nuclear program, were dispatched to Diego Garcia, an island base in the Indian Ocean.

The U.S. quietly delivered around 300 Hellfire missiles to Israel just days before Tel Aviv's unprecedented attack

Iranian air defenses successfully intercepted an infiltrating zionist drone in the city of Dehloran, west of Iran. It was an MQ-9 model, manufactured in the United States by General Atomics.

on Iran, Middle East Eye has revealed. The transfer took place on June 10 while Washington was publicly signaling readiness to re-engage Tehran in nuclear talks, suggesting prior knowledge and coordination. Two U.S. officials, speaking anonymously, confirmed the shipment and said it marked a significant weapons resupply effort in anticipation of the strike.

The Hellfire delivery had not been previously reported. Meanwhile, U.S. forces were directly involved in intercepting Iranian retaliatory missiles aimed at Israel on June 13, according to Reuters. The scale and timing of the arms transfer now raise serious questions about Washington's covert support for Israeli escalation, despite diplomatic posturing to the contrary.

In summary, the U.S. military would supply bombs, jet aircraft, intelligence and political cover, as they have for the past 20 months of Israel's genocidal campaign against the people of Gaza. This is the same essential support the U.S. has provided to Israel for 75-plus years to carry out continuing attacks on surrounding Arab countries.

The U.S. and Israel have been trying for decades, and especially in the past 20 months, to crush the resistance of the people of Palestine, Lebanon, Yemen, Iraq, Iran, Syria and others.

According to Israeli officials cited by Axios, Israel has been planning the operation for eight months and received "a clear U.S. green light" of U.S. intelligence, logistical and defensive support for the operation.

Iran's right to self defense

Iran, like all sovereign nations, has the right to defend itself.

Iran is the first country to shoot down the fifth generation F-35 supersonic stealth strike fighter jets used by Israel. The F-35 is designed and manufactured by the U.S.-based Lockheed Martin Corporation. Lockheed Martin stock shares sank after the announcement of the downing of three planes.

Iran claims to have captured the two pilots who ejected from the F-35s. The Iranian Ministry of Intelligence also announced the seizure of trucks carrying drones that were scheduled to be launched to attack targets inside Iran. These are heroic actions.

The coverage of Iranian missiles breaking through Israel's Iron Dome of anti-missile protection and hitting targets in downtown Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Haifa and settlements on stolen land brought cheers in occupied Gaza, Yemen, Lebanon, Pakistan and of course throughout Iran. The enthusiastic response was captured in videos and news reports throughout the Global South.

Al Mayadeen reported that Iranian missiles struck the Israeli nuclear research center in Tel Aviv.

Fox News confirmed that Iranian retaliatory bombs hit the "Kiryah," the Israeli Ministry of War headquarters.

The attack on Iran will only intensify the isolation and popular anger against the existence of the Zionist entity and its major U.S. protector. ☐

¡La resistencia NO es un delito!

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volvió a encenderse en el Centro-Sur de Los Ángeles tras la atroz absolución de unos policías blancos y racistas por la salvaje paliza propinada al automovilista negro Rodney King, que fue grabada en vídeo. La rebelión de 1992 duró una semana y fue aún más generalizada que la de Watts.

Se celebraron protestas en todo el país en solidaridad con la rebelión de Los Ángeles de 1992, que no sólo fue contra el terror policial racista, sino también para exigir vivienda, educación y atención médica de calidad para las comunidades negras y latinas desatendidas. Hubo una campaña masiva para exigir la amnistía total para unas 12.000 personas detenidas durante la rebelión.

¿Qué hay detrás de esta guerra contra los inmigrantes?

Lo que está ocurriendo en Los Ángeles refleja una crisis mucho más profunda del sistema capitalista que se enfrenta a su final permanente, predicho en el Manifiesto Comunista hace más de 175 años: La clase obrera se convertirá inevitablemente en el sepulturero del capitalismo. Por lo tanto, a la clase dominante multimillonaria no le queda otra opción que depender de un aparato violento y represivo para mantener a los miles de millones de trabajadores de todo el mundo bajo su opresivo dominio.

La represión estatal no es una demostración de fuerza, sino una muestra de miedo y debilidad por parte de los dueños del capital y de su inestable sistema. Esta represión es un recordatorio constante de que las diferencias antagónicas no pueden resolverse pacíficamente cuando una clase oprime a otra.

La solidaridad política con los inmigrantes es un importante paso adelante para forjar una unidad más amplia de la clase obrera para derrotar en última instancia al moribundo sistema del capitalismo que depende de todas las formas de violencia -guerra imperialista, ocupación, racismo y recortes bajo el disfraz de la supremacía blanca- para mantener su cabeza a flote en un océano de revolución social que inevitablemente lo ahogará. ☐

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Protesta en Los Ángeles, 8 de junio de 2025.

DECLARACIÓN DE WW/MO

¡La resistencia NO es un delito! Alto a los ataques contra los inmigrantes

9 de junio — El Partido Mundo Obrero expresa su solidaridad inequívoca con la comunidad migrante de Los Ángeles y sus simpatizantes que han estado resistiendo en las calles desde el 6 de junio contra la agencia federal de Inmigración, Aduanas y Control (ICE por las siglas en inglés), el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional, la policía de Los Ángeles y otras fuerzas represivas armadas.

Se han llevado a cabo redadas ilegales en lugares de trabajo como Home Depot, con el resultado de la detención de más de 120 trabajadores inmigrantes, documentados e indocumentados. Los Ángeles es la segunda ciudad más poblada de Estados Unidos y el hogar de más migrantes que ninguna otra ciudad. Forma parte de la tierra robada a México en 1848.

Estas detenciones aleatorias recuerdan los días de la esclavitud estadounidense, cuando las personas de origén africana, ya fueran libres o intentaran ganar la libertad, eran secuestrados y llevados encadenados a sus esclavizadores.

Donald Trump, que ha declarado una guerra racista y xenófoba a los migrantes desde el primer día de su segundo mandato, ha ordenado el envío de 2.000 soldados de la Guardia Nacional de California a Los Ángeles sin la aprobación de su gobernador, Gavin Newsom. La Guardia Nacional es la única rama del ejército estadounidense que puede ser desplegada en un momento dado tanto por los gobernadores estatales como por el presidente.

El Pentágono anunció sus planes de enviar 700 marines a Los Ángeles para respaldar a la Guardia Nacional.

La Guardia está compuesta por jóvenes voluntarios que tienen otros trabajos, a diferencia del ejército o la policía. Los activistas pueden y deben instar a los miembros de la Guardia a rechazar estas órdenes ilegales de reprimir a otros trabajadores.

La revuelta estalló en la ciudad de Paramount, California, al sur de Los Ángeles, donde los inmigrantes y sus partidarios, varios de los cuales portaban visiblemente la bandera palestina y llevaban keffiyehs, se

Protesta en Paramount, California, 6 de junio de 2025.

enfrentaron a la policía y a los agentes del ICE. Muchos otros manifestantes portaban sus banderas de origen, especialmente los de Centroamérica y Sudamérica.

Muy al estilo de la histórica lucha palestina contra la ocupación israelí respaldada por Estados Unidos, los jóvenes se defienden con piedras y botellas contra los agentes del ICE y la policía armados que utilizan contra ellos gases lacrimógenos, aerosoles de pimienta, granadas de fragmentación y botes de humo.

Durante estas detenciones, David Huerta, presidente del Sindicato Internacional de Empleados de Servicios (SEIU) de California y del SEIU-United Service Workers West, fue agredido y detenido por el mero hecho de estar en la protesta. Huerta, cuyos abuelos emigraron de México, es ciudadano estadounidense.

Tia Orr, directora ejecutiva de SEIU California, declaró: "Los miembros de SEIU California pedimos la liberación inmediata de nuestro presidente, David Huerta, que fue herido y detenido en el lugar de una de las redadas del ICE de hoy en Los Ángeles. Ahora está recibiendo atención médica mientras se encuentra bajo custodia.

"Estamos orgullosos de la justa participación del presidente Huerta como observador de la comunidad, en consonancia con su larga historia de defensa de los trabajadores inmigrantes y con los valores más elevados de nuestro movimiento: plantar cara a la injusticia, independientemente del riesgo personal o del poder de quienes la perpetran.

"Pedimos que se ponga fin a las redadas crueles, destructivas e indiscriminadas del ICE que están destrozando nuestras comunidades, perturbando nuestra economía y perjudicando a todos los trabajadores. Los trabajadores inmigrantes son esenciales para nuestra sociedad: alimentan a nuestra nación, cuidan de nuestros ancianos, limpian nuestros lugares de trabajo y construyen nuestros hogares." (seiu-usww.org, 6 de junio)

En el momento de escribir estas líneas, Huerta ha sido dado de alta del hospital pero aún permanece bajo custodia policial. El 9 de junio se convocaron protestas de emergencia en más de 30 ciudades estadounidenses exigiendo la liberación de Huerta. Más tarde, ese mismo día, fue puesto en libertad bajo fianza de 50.000 dólares.

Miles de migrantes de ciudades grandes y pequeñas han sido detenidos y enviados a prisión dentro y fuera de Estados Unidos, incluso en Guantánamo y El Salvador. Se les niega el derecho a un juicio, una audiencia de cargos y cualquier otro debido proceso legal supuestamente garantizado por la Constitución. Trump está intentando llevar a cabo su propia versión de la limpieza étnica de migrantes fuera de EE.UU. — similar a la limpieza étnica de palestinos de Gaza.

Una rica historia de lucha

Los Ángeles tiene una rica historia de heroicos levantamientos contra la brutalidad policial racista en el siglo XX. La más notable fue la rebelión de Watts de 1965, que conmemorará su 60 aniversario el próximo 11 de agosto, provocada cuando la policía de Los Ángeles atacó una fiesta de barbacoa en la comunidad predominantemente afroamericana del barrio de South Central de la ciudad. Aquella rebelión duró cinco días.

Y 27 años más tarde se produjo la rebelión de 1992, que

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Los estudiantes profundizan la resistencia por Palestina

editorial

En las ceremonias de graduación de este año en la ciudad de Nueva York no hubo nada de normal. Los estudiantes del Brooklyn College aceptaron sus diplomas mientras portaban banderas pro-Palestina y llevaban keffiyehs; en la Universidad de Columbia estudiantes y antiguos alumnos quemaron diplomas; en el Hunter College y en el City College la policía atacó a manifestantes pro-Palestina que interrumpieron los programas de graduación.

Megha Vemuri denuncia la complicidad del MIT con el genocidio de Israel durante el discurso de graduación, 30 de mayo de 2025.

La negación de la maquinaria de guerra israelí a detener su genocidio, el respaldo unánime de los gobiernos imperialistas de todo el mundo al programa sionista, la incapacidad de «la comunidad internacional» de Estados imperialistas para poner fin a la matanza y la determinación de los palestinos y sus aliados a resistir han cambiado la forma de pensar de millones de personas en todo el mundo, incluso en Estados Unidos, el principal respaldo y proveedor de armas de las Fuerzas de Ocupación de Israel.

Los estudiantes que protestan contra el genocidio israelí armado por Estados Unidos contra los palestinos de Gaza han mantenido sus acciones en las universidades estadounidenses a pesar de la brutalidad policial, la amenaza de perder sus títulos y, en el caso de los estudiantes internacionales, la amenaza de deportación. Para quien se pregunte por qué, considere lo siguiente:

Durante casi 20 meses, han presenciado en vídeos gráficos cómo las fuerzas de ocupación de Israel masacraban a decenas de miles de civiles palestinos, cerca del 40% de ellos niños, que vivían en una franja de territorio del tamaño de Filadelfia. Ahora son testigos de cómo las fuerzas israelíes impiden que los alimentos lleguen a cientos de miles de personas hambrientas.

Han visto cómo el gobierno estadounidense -tanto bajo una administración demócrata como republicana- alimenta la maquinaria de guerra israelí y aprueba ese genocidio y esa hambruna, aprueba la destrucción de hospitales y escuelas, el asesinato de periodistas y trabajadores sanitarios.

Han sentido la cobardía de sus propias administraciones universitarias hacia las autoridades gubernamentales y los alumnos ricos, unida a la brutalidad insensible contra sus compañeros.

Han sido testigos de cómo organizaciones jurídicas internacionales presentaban cargos legítimos contra dirigentes políticos israelíes por crímenes de genocidio. Creen que tanto los dirigentes israelíes como los dirigentes de otros países que arman al Estado sionista son culpables. Y no ven a nadie castigado por estos crímenes.

Han visto crecer un movimiento mundial. Saben que debe crecer más rápido. Pero ha crecido lo suficiente como para que los gobernantes se agiten para reprimirlo. Y fracasan.

Y más que nada, los estudiantes observan cómo el pueblo palestino y sus organizaciones, a pesar de su sufrimiento, se niegan a rendirse. Su ejemplo puede inspirar toda una vida de lucha.

No debería sorprender que, en estas condiciones, los estudiantes y otras personas de aquí se manifiesten, se sienten, desprecien la universidad en la que pasaron años esforzándose por obtener un título y que algunos aprovechen el momento perfecto para hablar: la ceremonia de graduación.

En la Universidad George Washington de Washington D.C., Cecilia Culver hizo caso omiso de la charla mecanografiada que había entregado y pidió a la escuela que desinvirtiera en Israel.

En la Universidad de Nueva York, Logan Rozor condenó el genocidio de Gaza. El presidente de la NYU, John Beckman, acusó a Rozor de haber «mentido sobre el discurso que iba a pronunciar». Beckman no expuso las mentiras de los presidentes Joe Biden y Donald Trump y del primer ministro israelí Benyamin Netanyahu sobre su complicidad en el genocidio.

Los dirigentes de gobiernos y universidades que excusan el apartheid y la limpieza étnica enseñan una lección duradera a los estudiantes conscientes, activos y alertas de hoy: Estos administradores bajo el imperialismo estadounidense gestionan un sistema construido sobre la guerra, la muerte, la explotación y la mentira. Los estudiantes pueden someterse o resistir. Se resisten.

En el Instituto Tecnológico de Massachusetts (MIT), Megha Vemuri resistió. Su discurso «no preaprobado» elogiaba a sus compañeros que protestaban en favor de los palestinos y denunciaba los vínculos del MIT con Israel. Los responsables de la escuela prohibieron a Vemuri asistir a la ceremonia de graduación. Ella escribió en respuesta: «No veo ninguna necesidad de que cruce el escenario de una institución que es cómplice de este genocidio».

Y esto es sólo el primer acto de rebeldía. ❑